

WILSON PLEDGES AID TO RICHMOND IN FIGHT FOR BANK

(Continued From First Page.)

Federal reserve district served by a regional bank in Richmond. With the Wilson meeting closed the second day of the missionary tour upon which the Richmond delegation is engaged, with Rocky Mount, Tarboro and Wilson safely enrolled under the Richmond banner. The party left at 9:15 o'clock to-night for Goldsboro, N. C., where it will spend the night preparatory to holding a meeting in that city to-morrow morning. From Goldsboro the delegation will go to-morrow to Greensboro for an afternoon meeting, and from there to Winston-Salem, where a big meeting is scheduled for to-morrow night.

Jackson Goes to Raleigh.

President Herbert W. Jackson, of the Virginia Trust Company, left for Raleigh at 5 o'clock this afternoon to be on hand when the executive committee of the North Carolina Bankers' Association meets in that city to-morrow morning. He will rejoin the rest of the delegation at Raleigh, and will proceed with it to Greensboro and Winston-Salem.

At Tarboro this morning President Holden of the North Carolina Bankers' Association, put in motion his campaign to secure Richmond's designation as a Federal reserve city. He forwarded a copy of the resolution adopted last night at Tarboro to each of North Carolina's Representatives in Congress, accompanying them with personal letters. He made a particularly strong personal appeal to Congressman Claude Kitchin, Representative from the Second District, in which are located Tarboro and Wilson.

"I have received forty letters from bankers in North Carolina endorsing Richmond," said Mr. Holden this morning, "and I expect to receive a good many more between now and the meeting of the executive committee of the Bankers' Association in Raleigh to-morrow. I'll be there, and I'll do what I can to get that body to give Richmond a unanimous vote, and I don't think that will be hard to do, either."

The Richmond committee was met at the station at Wilson by Secretary H. D. Brown, of the Chamber of Com-

merce, and taken to the New Briggs Hotel for luncheon. The meeting at the chamber of commerce took place at 1:30 o'clock.

Manager Horace P. Smith, of the Manufacturers' Exhibit, and Business Manager Dabney, of the Chamber of Commerce, were at work to-night on an amended schedule, which calls for the cancellation of the meeting at Salisbury Saturday morning, and the substitution of a meeting at Concord instead. They were in telegraphic communication with both cities to-day, and the indications are that the amended schedule will be followed. Salisbury has advised that while it will be glad to welcome the Richmond party, it cannot promise a directors' meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, since that body has already formally gone on record in favor of the designation of another city as the regional reserve point for this section. In the light of advice from Raleigh and Charlotte, it appears that Salisbury will stand alone in withholding its endorsement from Richmond.

WILL EMPLOY EXPERTS ON TRADE STATISTICS

General Committee Fighting for Regional Reserve Bank for Richmond Is Preparing Strong Case to Present to Organization Committee in Washington.

Experts will be employed immediately to compile trade statistics and to prepare maps and diagrams showing the natural advantages of this city as the location for one of the proposed regional reserve banks. This decision was reached yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the executive committee, following the most enthusiastic rally yet held in the history of Richmond's great fight for recognition as a financial center.

Representatives of practically every business and civic organization in the city were present when John Kerr Branch, chairman of the general committee, called the meeting to order yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in the Business Men's Club. Without losing any time, the committee settled down to business, and suggestion after suggestion was offered and discussed in behalf of the movement.

Executive Secretary George C. Gregory was called upon to state the latest developments, and told of the intense interest that is being displayed in the fight. More than 20,000 cir-

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terests of this section as effectively as in our city."

Captain John Landstreet suggested that the industrial and financial interests of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina would have considerable weight with Secretary Houston, of the organization committee, and that steps should be taken to secure such endorsement. Chairman Branch then appointed George W. Koerner, Commissioner of Agriculture, as chairman of a committee to work. Associated with Mr. Koerner is Milton Cone, a mail order expert, who has business relations with the officials of the Farmers' Union and the Farmers' Institute, organizations having a membership of nearly 100,000 farmers in the three States.

Koerner Will Get Farmers.

Mr. Koerner believes that the bank would be stimulated by the fact that the rest of the section to be served. It would bring investors and home-seekers here, and would be a vast help to the agricultural interests. He agreed to get in touch with the farmers and will ask them to use their influence with Secretary Houston.

Two speakers pointed out instances in which Richmond has been a step ahead of the times. The first was the fact that this city was selected as one of the eight cities in which an United States Circuit Court of Appeals has been located. It was picked in preference to Washington, as it is much more convenient to the litigants of the five States it serves.

Along the same lines, Rev. George W. McDaniel, D. D., stated that two of the largest educational boards which had thoroughly studied Southern conditions, had selected Richmond as a center. This city, he said, has always been recognized as the gateway to the South, even in times of war, and he pointed to its selection as the capital of the Confederacy as an example of the importance of its location.

Richmond's Port an Advantage.

"This city has an advantage over both Washington and Atlanta," said William H. White, president of the Richmond-Fredricksburg and Potomac Railroad. "Neither of those cities enjoy the advantages of a port, and this will be a greater factor in advancing trade conditions. The support of Newport News is essential and should be looked after at once."

"Letters and telegrams are all right," continued Mr. White, "but we need something more. Both help considerably, but when we go before the organization committee as a body, little time will be given to them. What we must have is trade statistics and maps put up in pamphlet form and convenient for the members of the board to read."

A resolution was immediately offered that an expert be employed to get up these statistics, but the matter was referred to the executive committee, which took the desired action promptly.

Virginia Bankers Favor Richmond.

The aid of many cities in Virginia has been pledged. Ernest Williams, president of the Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce, attended yesterday's meeting, and said that he did not think there would be any difficulty in getting the support of his organization. He did not think Washington a convenient city, and believes that Richmond will land the reserve bank.

The Richmond Rotary Club at its weekly meeting yesterday, at 1 o'clock, passed a resolution favoring this city as a regional reserve center. Copies of the resolution will be sent to all the Virginia congressional representatives, and to the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Secretary of Agriculture. John Bagby and Henry W. McDaniel were requested to represent the club on the general committee.

Chairman Branch appointed the following supplementary committees: Julian H. Hill, W. M. Addison and C. H. Jordan, banks; Coleman Wortham and John G. Walker, fire and life insurance; J. T. Palmatory, wholesale and jobbers; E. C. Laird, manufacturers; Ernest Williams, Lynchburg; H. R. Polard, Jr., State and city officials; E. B. Schor, Petersburg, and T. M. Carrington, Norfolk.

Mr. Sands called upon the committee to work hard on the proposition. It has passed the initial stages, and now is the time to get results, he said. "Farmers Appreciate Our Help."

"What do the people in the surrounding country think?"

This question, said Mr. Sands, was

one of the most significant asked by the organization committee at the first hearing in New York.

That the farmers, said Mr. Sands, realize and appreciate the efforts the Richmond banks have made on their behalf. He cited as one instance the ready help from the city people of Potomac County, when floods recently destroyed the bridges and other public improvements. Richmond money, he said, made it possible for the community to repair the wreckage and award contracts to replace the bridges in less than a week.

The committee now traveling through North and South Carolina will be kept at its full strength by volunteers from this city. These men will be sent out at the discretion of Messrs. Sands and Gregory. It was announced yesterday that Congressman Andrew Jackson Montague, John M. Miller, Jr., Julian H. Hill and Thomas B. McAdams would join the committee for a short time. The men were telegraphing ahead to each city, and the Richmond delegation is being met at the station. Greenville, S. C., is preparing a huge smoker following the meeting in that city.

Go After Other States.

Endorsements from West Virginia and Florida will be sought for. It is believed by the committee that these States will at last make this city their second choice. Some assurance along this line have been received here. Efforts will also be made to get the cities and organizations endorsing Richmond go out after others. An endless chain action is the proposal. This plan has already been adopted by the Richmond Real Estate Exchange, according to O. H. Funsten, its representative, who stated that every exchange in the proposed reserve district is being asked to co-operate, not only for Richmond's benefit, but for its own.

The meeting adjourned after a two-hour discussion. The next meeting will be held to-morrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the Business Men's Club.

Among those present yesterday were: E. C. Laird, John Langstreet, D. G. Whitehead, E. H. Randolph, Oliver J. Sands, John Kerr Branch, L. L. Boniss, W. S. Rhoads, O. H. Funsten, J. C. Easley, John Bagby, Rev. George W. McDaniel, Milton Cone, Fred W. Scott, George W. Stevens, L. R. Gordon, George Bryan, George W. Koerner, John Bagby, W. H. Rountree, T. M. Carrington, William H. White and Julian H. Hill.

Mr. Sands will deliver the principal address before the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night at its annual meeting and banquet. It is expected that the organization will pledge its support to this city, as its relations with the local body are very cordial.

VIRGINIA BANKERS FAVOR RICHMOND

Executive Council of State Association Wants Reserve Bank Located Here.

Resolutions endorsing this city as the logical location of one of the proposed regional reserve banks were passed last night at a meeting of the executive council of the Virginia Bankers' Association at the Commonwealth Club. The full text of the resolution follows:

"The executive council of the Virginia Bankers' Association heartily favors the selection of the city of Richmond, Va., as one of the regional reserve cities under the provisions of the currency act. The geographical position of Richmond; the great volume of its banking business; its importance as a manufacturing and jobbing center; its extensive shipping facilities, both by rail and by water; its proximity to deep water navigation, both coastal and trans-oceanic, are only a few of the considerations which must commend it to the judgment of those charged with the selection of the reserve cities, as one peculiarly adapted to the purposes contemplated by the act."

"The advantages to the banks and people of Virginia of the selection of Richmond are manifest. The member banks of the district in which the regional bank is located, will have the right to elect six of the nine directors. The business sentiment of the district will thus be directly reflected in the board of directors, the majority of which will, in the event of the selection of Richmond, possess full knowledge of Southern local conditions, and will thus be enabled to respond intelligently to the legitimate demands."

"This council urges upon the members of the association and also of the banking association of adjoining States, their earnest co-operation in the effort to obtain for Virginia this recognition of her great material and financial interests."

Thirteen members of the executive committee were present. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting of the association at Chamberlin Hotel, Old Point Comfort, June 18, 19 and 20.

AGAINST ONE GREAT BANK IN NEW YORK

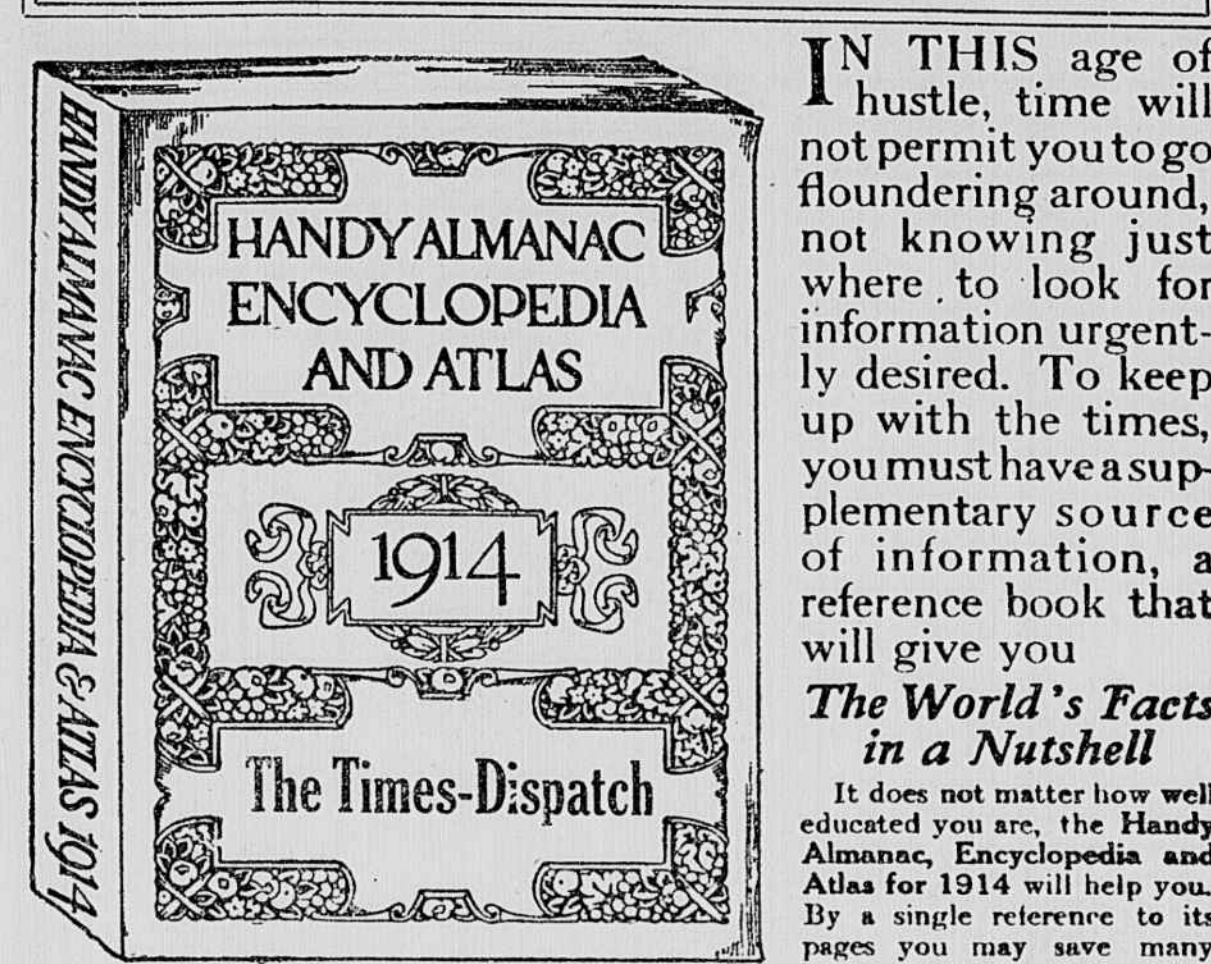
Probable Solution Is Placing of Three or Four on or Near Atlantic Seaboard.

New York, January 7.—The Federal reserve organization committee to-day concluded its hearings in New York, having devoted three days to ascertaining the views of New York bankers concerning the matter with which the committee is charged, of setting up the regional reserve districts provided in the new law, and selecting the cities in which the banks are to be placed. The committee, consisting of Secretary McAdoo, of the Treasury Department, and Secretary Houston, of the Department of Agriculture, will proceed to-morrow to Boston.

After the hearings here had been concluded, Secretary McAdoo, asked whether he had been impressed by the arguments advanced almost unanimously by the New York bankers, who have appeared in favor of establishment here of a regional bank of such size that it would overshadow all the others.

"I hope," said the secretary, smiling, "that I am not as green as I look." Mr. McAdoo would say nothing more, further than the committee had reached its conclusions. Those who objected to the hearings and listened to the objections raised by the committee to the proposal for a huge New York bank, believed the most probable solution of the question in the light of evidence as fact indicated was the placing of three or four regional banks on or near the Atlantic seaboard, instead of having one large district centering in New York, and including

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New England and part of the Middle Atlantic States.

Cities Most Mentioned. The cities most frequently mentioned in this connection, were New York, Boston, Baltimore and Atlanta. Washington and Philadelphia also were alluded to often, but it was the opinion of a majority of the witnesses that Baltimore was entitled to preference over either of these cities. Washington was objected to because no large commercial interests centre in that city, although some of the witnesses said it would be of advantage to establish a bank there to be in close touch with the Federal Board. Arguments in favor of Baltimore rather than Philadelphia, were based on the supposed advisability of a more equal geographical distribution of the regional banks, it being thought that New York and Philadelphia were in too close proximity to have each a bank. It was said also that Baltimore, by reason of its location and foreign and domestic trade affiliations,

would serve better than Philadelphia the States of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, and other territory North of the section which may be attached to Atlanta.

As for the remainder of the country, the most commonly expressed opinion was that banks should be established at Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco and New Orleans. Many other cities were mentioned for the remaining

banks, but the opinion of witnesses was widely divided as to the preferable ones. Denver, Omaha, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Spokane, Seattle, Los Angeles, Kansas City, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dallas, Houston, Texas and Pittsburgh were suggested by various bankers.

To-day's hearing brought out the trend of opinion among New York bankers, as was evident from the outset, that the New York district should embrace a large section of the Northeast, including New England. Bankers said the New York territory should extend south to the Potomac River and west to the Alleghenies or beyond. System Will Be Co-ordinated. Secretary McAdoo's reply was that the new banking system of the country would be co-ordinated, and that the mere matter of capital of the New York bank was not entitled to the emphasis which had been laid upon it. Mr. McAdoo exchanged his views at length to-day. He departed from the usual routine of questions and answers

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)

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